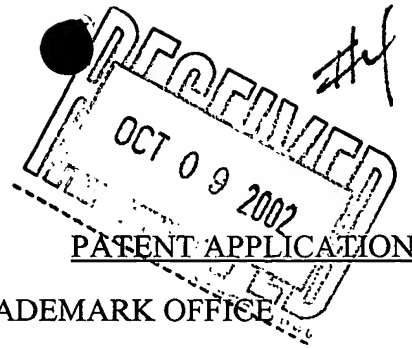


684.2535 D3



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Prior Examiner: Q. LE
Yuichi YAMADA et al.	)	
	:	Prior Group Art Unit: 2878
Application No.: Unassigned	)	
(Divisional of Application No. 08/904,867,	:	
filed August 1, 1997	)	
	:	
Filed: December 21, 2001	)	
	:	
For: SURFACE POSITION DETECTING	)	December 21, 2001
METHOD	:	

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

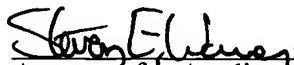
To comply with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 Forms. Each of these documents (or the application from which the respective patent matured) was cited during the prosecution of parent application No. 08/904,867, filed August 1, 1997. A copy of each of these documents is attached.

Applicants request that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that copies of the enclosed PTO-1449 Forms be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants believe that no fees should be incurred in connection with filing this paper. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205 should any fees be associated herewith. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for this purpose.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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SEW/eab